

Weather Forecast

Sunny, continued cold and windy with high in middle 20s today. Clear, not so cold tomorrow.

Temperatures yesterday: High, 30, at 12:01 a.m.; low, 14, at 10 p.m. (Full Report on Page A-2.) United States Weather Bureau Report.

The Sunday Star

WITH DAILY EVENING EDITION

WASHINGTON, D., C., FEBRUARY 9, 1947—136 PAGES.

Home Delivery

The Evening and Sunday Star is delivered by carrier in the city and suburbs at 90c per month when 4 Sundays; \$1.00 per month when 5 Sundays.

Telephone NA. 5000.

Washington and Suburbs TEN CENTS. 10 CENTS Elsewhere

No. 2,184—No. 57,535

PORTAL CASE DISMISSED, FIGHT CONTINUES

Industries Not Liable for Claims Before Last June 10, Picard Holds

Damages Refused Pottery Workers By Federal Judge

(Text of Decision on Page A-6.)

By the Associated Press
DETROIT, Feb. 8.—The momentous Mount Clemens Pottery Co. case was thrown out of a Federal Court today, but the \$4,800,000,000 portal-to-portal pay battle still continued.

Federal Judge Frank A. Picard, ruling against portal time for the pottery workers, dismissed the Mt. Clemens case with a denial of damages.

Industry hailed the verdict. But the immediate reaction of CIO labor, mainly responsible for the avalanche of portal suits across the Nation, was that the fight wouldn't stop here.

Ahead also was a likely final determination from the Supreme Court, itself responsible for the Federal court's attention to the portal theory in the Mt. Clemens dispute.

Portal Time Held Trifling.
Judge Picard held the pottery workers' portal time was too trifling for damages.

The court said further industry should not be held liable for portal claims prior to last June 10. That was the day the Supreme Court set forth the portal theory in the Mt. Clemens case.

The National Association of Manufacturers, through President Earl Bunting, said Judge Picard's verdict presumably meant the "vast majority" of portal suits "no longer have any standing."

At the same time, Mr. Bunting called on Congress for clarification of the Fair Labor Standards Act to avoid further confusion.

CIO Holds Its Ground.
On the other hand, the CIO's United Auto Workers Union, which alone has filed nearly \$1,000,000,000 in portal suits, held its ground.

Union Attorney Maurice Sugar said the auto union would not withdraw any of its suits.

Mr. Sugar said Judge Picard's decision "would not necessarily apply to other cases." He also called attention to the likelihood of a Supreme Court test.

There was no immediate comment from the automobile industry's "big three"—General Motors, Ford and Chrysler—from whom more than a half billion dollars in portal suits have been asked.

The Government, in entering the Mt. Clemens case, said the suit would be carried to the Supreme Court no matter what Judge Picard ruled.

Attorney Edward Lamb, who brought the Mt. Clemens suit originally, warned industry the issue was not settled. He said the Mt. Clemens case was not a "truly portal-to-portal case" in view of "limiting facts."

Decision Called Far-Reaching.
The Mt. Clemens case, Mr. Lamb said, was not comparable to the portal theory with industry in steel, autos and other industry.

Today's court decision was described as "far-reaching" by Frank E. Cooper, a pottery company attorney. He said it "clearly points out that last June's Supreme Court verdict 'furnishes no basis for the many fantastic claims' by labor in portal suits."

"Judge Picard's decision makes it plain," Mr. Cooper added, "that the judgment of the Supreme Court did not hold what some people were led to think had been decided."

Judge Picard held that workers

(See PORTAL PAY, Page A-7)

Picard Releases Ruling to Press In His Office

Explains He Wanted To Help Reporters Keep 'Facts Straight'

By the Associated Press

DETROIT, Feb. 8.—Federal Judge Frank A. Picard's 7,500-word decision in the Mount Clemens Pottery Co. case was handed down today at an unusual press conference in his private chambers.

Nearly a score of newspaper reporters and photographers, including one woman, crowded into the office to hear the lengthy verdict.

The setting was in sharp contrast to the austere courtroom where the case was heard.

Newsmen had been alerted in mid-morning by a court attaché's announcement that Judge Picard would hold a special press conference at 12:30 p.m.

Reporters Throng Corridor.
Reporters thronged the corridor near the judge's office well in advance of that hour.

Then the judge came out and said the meeting would be postponed an hour, since stenographers had not finished typing copies of the decision for all the reporters.

An hour later, the reporters and photographers were admitted to the judge's anteroom, where he posed for pictures and bantered with newsmen.

Judge Picard joked with the reporters and showed them two anonymous letters pertaining to the case that he had received today. Their contents were of the record, but the court agreed they were far from complimentary.

Then the judge became serious as

(See PICARD, Page A-8.)

10-Degree Low Forecast Here; Cold Wave May Last 4 Days

Southern Vegetable, Citrus and Tobacco Crops Imperiled

A cold wave continued to grip Washington and the Atlantic Coast States last night and the weather forecaster predicted a low of 10 degrees for the city and 5 degrees for the surrounding suburbs for today. At 1 a.m., the temperature had dropped to 11.

The intense cold posed a new threat to Southern vegetable, citrus and tobacco crops, and inflicted a financial loss on Washington theater, hotel, restaurant and filling station operators.

Downtown theater owners estimated their attendance last night was off 35 per cent of normal for a Saturday night. At some neighborhood shows it was said crowds were about 20 per cent smaller than usual.

Hotel managers and restaurant operators said they thought patronage was down about 10 per cent.

The few filling station operators who remained open were convinced most drivers were home by the fire. They said business was at a standstill and most of them were ready to lock up and go home by 8 o'clock.

Many were glad of the chance to rest, having put in extra hours

(See WEATHER, Page A-5.)

Industrial Shutdowns In British Coal Crisis Are Threat to Cabinet

Attorney General Fears Blow Will End Idea of 'Socialism in Our Time'

By the Associated Press

LONDON, Feb. 8.—Britain prepared tonight for a major industrial shutdown amid warnings by a labor spokesman that the coal crisis threatened an end to the Labor government and "socialism in our time."

While Emanuel Shinwell, fuel minister, declared "complete disaster" awaited Britain if industry and the public failed to carry out his sweeping conservation measures, almost chaotic conditions were reported among industries in the huge industrial belts around London, Manchester and Birmingham, where 4,000,000 will be thrown out of work beginning at midnight Sunday.

Police were called a second time today to Shoreditch, a London suburb, to quiet crowds besieging a coal store. About 100 persons surged around the store gates with hand carts.

Friday night a similar crowd tried to force its way into the coal piles, but fled when a police radio car arrived.

Mr. Shinwell's order halting electricity power to industry and the biggest export-producing areas of England and cutting off current from domestic users—including homes, theaters, stores, offices and restaurants—for five hours daily, sent puzzled factory managers into hurried conferences. Their worry was to find some way, if possible, to minimize the effect of the power blackout.

Grave Political Crisis.
There were hurried conferences in Whitehall, where the government offices are concentrated, as officials tried to coordinate the government's response to the power crisis.

Prime Minister Attlee promised a statement to Parliament Monday, and many political forecasters said the Conservative chieftain, Winston Churchill, might pick that day as the time to put the government with his long-threatened motion of censure.

Sir Hartley Shawcross, Attorney General, speaking in Lancashire, center of Great Britain's giant cotton industry which will be closed, solemnly declared:

"Certainly if we do not succeed in overcoming this situation and improving coal production the Labor government will fail and there will be an end to any idea of Socialism in our time."

"The whole situation is just as

(See COAL, Page A-8.)

Girl, 14, Slays Father in Auto, Wrecking Car, Killing Boy, 13

By the Associated Press

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 8.—J. Vincent Reardon, 58, prominent St. Louis businessman, and 13-year-old Michael A. d'Arcy were dead tonight as a result of a series of tragic circumstances involving Mr. Reardon's 14-year-old daughter, Mary.

Mr. Reardon was shot through the head early today as he was driving home with the two teenagers who had been thwarted in an attempt to run away together. The shot caused Mr. Reardon to lose control of the car and it plunged into a ditch beside a county road, young d'Arcy receiving injuries from which he died late today.

Mr. Reardon was shot through the head early today as he was driving home with the two teenagers who had been thwarted in an attempt to run away together. The shot caused Mr. Reardon to lose control of the car and it plunged into a ditch beside a county road, young d'Arcy receiving injuries from which he died late today.

Mr. Reardon was shot through the head early today as he was driving home with the two teenagers who had been thwarted in an attempt to run away together. The shot caused Mr. Reardon to lose control of the car and it plunged into a ditch beside a county road, young d'Arcy receiving injuries from which he died late today.

Mr. Reardon was shot through the head early today as he was driving home with the two teenagers who had been thwarted in an attempt to run away together. The shot caused Mr. Reardon to lose control of the car and it plunged into a ditch beside a county road, young d'Arcy receiving injuries from which he died late today.

Mr. Reardon was shot through the head early today as he was driving home with the two teenagers who had been thwarted in an attempt to run away together. The shot caused Mr. Reardon to lose control of the car and it plunged into a ditch beside a county road, young d'Arcy receiving injuries from which he died late today.

Mr. Reardon was shot through the head early today as he was driving home with the two teenagers who had been thwarted in an attempt to run away together. The shot caused Mr. Reardon to lose control of the car and it plunged into a ditch beside a county road, young d'Arcy receiving injuries from which he died late today.

Mr. Reardon was shot through the head early today as he was driving home with the two teenagers who had been thwarted in an attempt to run away together. The shot caused Mr. Reardon to lose control of the car and it plunged into a ditch beside a county road, young d'Arcy receiving injuries from which he died late today.

Mr. Reardon was shot through the head early today as he was driving home with the two teenagers who had been thwarted in an attempt to run away together. The shot caused Mr. Reardon to lose control of the car and it plunged into a ditch beside a county road, young d'Arcy receiving injuries from which he died late today.

Mr. Reardon was shot through the head early today as he was driving home with the two teenagers who had been thwarted in an attempt to run away together. The shot caused Mr. Reardon to lose control of the car and it plunged into a ditch beside a county road, young d'Arcy receiving injuries from which he died late today.

Mr. Reardon was shot through the head early today as he was driving home with the two teenagers who had been thwarted in an attempt to run away together. The shot caused Mr. Reardon to lose control of the car and it plunged into a ditch beside a county road, young d'Arcy receiving injuries from which he died late today.

Congress to Push For Legislation To Back Ruling

By the Associated Press

Members of Congress expressed determination last night to nail down by law Federal Judge Frank A. Picard's decision that employers should not be liable for portal pay claims arising before last June 10, date of the Supreme Court ruling.

Advocates of legislation to outlaw the portal suits praised Judge Picard's finding but noted that it might be upset by a higher court on appeal.

For that reason, and also to remove any question about its applicability to other suits totalling nearly \$5,000,000,000, they determined to proceed with legislation already in the committee stage in both Senate and House.

House Majority Leader Halleck predicted a bill to deal with the problem will be one of the first things the Republicans put through the House.

Hearings Near End.
Chairman Michener of the House Judiciary Committee said a subcommittee probably will complete its hearings tomorrow and report to the full committee next week. He commented that the Picard decision "should have a wholesome and practical effect."

Chairman Wiley of the Senate Judiciary Committee noted that the Picard ruling "is simply a decision on the facts in this particular case" and declared Congress "should re-evaluate its position in no uncertain terms on the general issue."

A subcommittee of the Senate group already has completed hearings. Its chairman, Senator Donnell, Republican, of Missouri said more recommendations probably will not be ready until February 17 or later. Senator Donnell declined to comment on the Mount Clemens case.

Reaction of other Congress members included:

Representative Fellers, Republican, of Maine: "The decision shows more clearly the need for some constructive, clarifying congressional action."

Continued Study Urged.
Representative Keating, Republican, of New York: "Judge Picard's opinion dismissing the Mount Clemens case does not, in my opinion, eliminate the necessity for continued consideration by Congress of the serious problems highlighted by this litigation. We must continue to study the problem and recommend legislation which will, on the one hand, remove the threat of bankruptcy and stagnation in production from industry—particularly small business—and, on the other hand, will not deprive the working man of any of his legitimate rights or emasculate any laws enacted for his benefit."

Chairman Hartley of the House Labor Committee: "It would seem to me that this dumps the question into the lap of the Labor Committee, which still leaves the necessity for amending the Wage-Hour Act to define the work week. Once that is done, then portal-to-portal pay will be where it should be—a question of collective bargaining."

Representative Case, Republican, of South Dakota: "If the June 10 date is firm, then there is no need for amending judicial legislation. But if that date is not firm and is overthrown by review, then we will have to go ahead with measures now under consideration."

Representative Landis, Republican, of Indiana: "We should have legislation anyway to nail it down."

Lesinski Predicts Legislation.
Representative Lesinski, Democrat, of Michigan: "I doubt whether the decision will head off legislation. Most Republicans seem to have their minds made up and I do not believe that anything can stop them. Personally, I see no need for a bill, the matter of portal pay is a contractual issue to be settled by collective bargaining."

Senator Leiger, Republican, of North Dakota: "This decision is not a precedent in view of the Supreme Court ruling. When the facts warrant it, portal-to-portal pay should be paid. Where the evidence shows men actually did extra work they should be fully compensated. Apparently the judge found the doctrine of de minimus applied here and if he did so conscientiously no one can quarrel with his opinion."

Senator Moore, Republican, of Oklahoma: "It looks like a slap in the face at an effort to collect for time they never contracted for at all. I'm happy to hear of it."

(See VANDENBERG, Page A-8.)

Bus Hits Woman, 82, As High Fur Collar Obstructs Her View

A high fur collar raised for protection against the cold prevented Etta May Andre, 82, of 124 E street S.E., from seeing a Capital Transit bus which struck her last night as she stepped into the street from between two parked automobiles in front of her home, police reported.

Her condition was reported as critical in Casualty Hospital from a possible skull fracture. Police said Henry Williams, 36, of 1243 Owens place N.E., was driving the bus.

thawing out frozen radiators in the mid-week cold wave.

Cab companies reported their drivers were rushed more than usual on Saturday night—another being kept off the streets. Capital Transit officials said they were sure business was below normal, but could give no indication of how much.

Florida vegetable and citrus growers were warned to expect low temperatures of 17 to 38 degrees this morning, according to the Associated Press. An unexpected freeze

(See WEATHER, Page A-5.)

Michigan Republicans Still See Vandenberg As Possible Nominee

By the Associated Press

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Feb. 8.—While appreciative of the "compliment," Senator Vandenberg, Republican, of Michigan emphasized to newsmen today that he was not a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination.

"I am not a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination," he said. "I don't expect to be and I have no wish to be, but a man would be entirely numb if he were insensible to the compliment the suggestion implies."

Later, leaders at the Michigan Spring Republican State convention, sidetracked a resolution endorsing the Senator for President. There were reports, however, the leadership intended to keep the Michigan delegation tied up for Senator Vandenberg and place him in position for presidential maneuvering.

The Vandenberg statement regarding the presidential question preceded his address to the convention in which he made his first speech on domestic issues in two years.

Is Not Switch of Interest.
He emphasized to newsmen that his return to the domestic stage after long attention to foreign affairs did not mean a switch of interest.

"I can't be the senior Senator from Michigan and president of the Senate and continue intimate day-to-day labor with the peace mission," Senator Vandenberg said. "A man in my position is not needed on routine matters, but at the major points and I'll still be there at the major points."

There was a movement afoot to elect Senator Vandenberg chairman of the Michigan delegation at the 1948 Republican National Convention, a move which would increase the Senator's strategic position. Normally, the State's Governor would be the chairman.

Senator Vandenberg declared in his address that international peace is not likely unless America can achieve domestic peace.

His Labor-Management Strife.
"It is sheer suicide," he asserted, "for labor and capital to go to each other's throats; and it is wanton neglect of the public welfare, including the true welfare of every man who toils, to longer ignore the need for rational progress in the law respecting labor-management relationship."

Suggesting the need for "some

(See VANDENBERG, Page A-8.)

(See VANDENBERG, Page A-8.)



Fort Dix M. P. Admits He May Be Murderer Of Los Angeles Girl

By the Associated Press

FORT DIX, N. J., Feb. 8.—The Army's criminal investigation division tonight announced it was holding Corp. Joseph Dumais on a charge of suspicion of murder after he signed a statement saying "it was possible" he committed the mutilation slaying of attractive Elizabeth Short (the Black Dahlia) in Los Angeles.

No request has been received from Los Angeles police to hold Dumais on any charge, the Army said.

Announcement that Dumais had signed the statement was made by Capt. William H. Florence, head of the criminal investigation department through Maj. Cornelius T. Morris, post public relations officer.

Maj. Morris said Dumais, 29-year-old former combat infantryman who has been serving as a military policeman signed a statement which included a 50-page document scrawled in his own longhand and a lengthy series of questions and answers bearing directly upon the slaying.

Dumais Initials Each Page.
The two papers were combined into a single statement to which Maj. Morris said Dumais affixed his signature after initialing each page.

Dumais stated, Maj. Morris said, that he was with the slain girl in the days before her body was found in California. The soldier insisted throughout that his mind "blanked out" while drinking with the girl and that he remembered nothing until he found himself in New York's Pennsylvania Station some time later.

Maj. Morris said records at Fort Dix showed definitely that Dumais was at the Army installation on January 10, 11 and 12. Then there was a lapse of four days, during which time there was no trace of Dumais.

But on January 17 the records again show Dumais at the fort.

Had Blood on Clothing.
The Claremont (N. H.) soldier had been questioned for almost a week following his apprehension on an embezzlement charge.

Dumais' statement, Maj. Morris said, declared he had known Miss Short since 1942 and had several dates with her.

When arrested last Monday on the charge of embezzling several hundred dollars entrusted to his care while he was on duty at a Fort Dix gate, Dumais told Capt. Florence of his connection with Short, Maj. Morris said.

There were clippings of the case in his pocket and bloodstains on his trousers. Analysis showed, Maj. Morris said, that the blood was "possibly AB type," the same type of blood Miss Short had.

Maj. Morris said the Dumais statement told how he had "blank spells" in previous dealings with women when he had been drinking heavily.

Admits Becoming Brutal.
The statement included a remark by the soldier that when with a girl and drinking, his "craving and passion became uncontrollable." He said he became "rough and brutal."

Maj. Morris released the slaying questions and answers to which he said Dumais signed his signature.

"Question—Is it possible, while being with Betty and drinking that you could have gotten into one of

(See SOLDIER, A-8.)

Representative Gerlach Reported Improving

By the Associated Press

WEST ORANGE, N. J., Feb. 8.—Thomas Alva Edison's famous roll-top desk—sealed since his death more than 15 years ago—was opened today by his son and was found to contain scientific materials, but mostly the personal effects of Edison, the man.

There were stomach pills and mouth wash, bills accumulated for decades, jokes written in his own hand, a book he never had time to autograph for a young girl in Chicago, but nothing startling except perhaps a small vial of uranium nitrate.

His son, Charles Edison, former New Jersey Governor and former Secretary of the Navy, supervised the unsealing and study of the desk. Beside him was Mrs. Edison, widow of the inventor.

Mr. Edison, with a big smile on his face, at one point stopped reading a penciled piece of note paper and

said "censored." The note contained a story his father had heard at one time. Another piece of paper bore the legend, "When down in the mouth remember Jonah, he came out all right."

It was an impressive compilation of Edison's notebooks with the half-printed scroll of the inventor's diagrams of something on which he was working; a piece of goldenrod, rubber on which he was experimenting when he died; a box of ancient cigars; maps of New Jersey, and as indicative of the fact that the genius Edison was just as human as the next man—a book of accounts dated April, 1904, and still lying in one of the cubbyholes.

There were two fountain pens which Charles Edison opened to find three papers, owned by the Philadelphia Record Co., suspended publication after being strikebound nearly three months by the CIO American Newspaper Guild.

(See EDISON, Page A-3.)

France Plans New Cut Of 5% in All Prices

By the Associated Press

PARIS, Feb. 8.—France's war against inflation went into its second stage tonight when Premier Paul Ramadier announced in a broadcast to the nation a second 5 per cent cut in all prices and fees, effective "during the course of the coming week."

The first such price cut was decreed by the government during the administration of Interim Premier Leon Blum little more than a month ago.

Justice Laws Wants Veterans' War Record Produced at Trials

By the Associated Press

If there's a chance a crime committed by a veteran can be traced to his war experiences, Chief Justice Bolitha J. Laws of District Court wants a psychiatrist to examine the veteran before he comes up for trial.

The importance of getting the war record, Justice Laws told The Star yesterday, was underlined recently by every veteran facing trial.

The electric chair for first degree murder because his war experiences were not brought to the court's attention.

Justice Laws believes the United States Attorney should be responsible for getting the war record of every veteran facing trial.

If there is any indication that the veteran is a "victim" of the war, Justice Laws added, the United States Attorney should see that the man is given an expert psychiatric examination before he comes up for trial.

Many Crimes Laid to Shocks.
"I am thoroughly convinced," he said, "that a number of crimes committed by veterans are a result of shocks to their system because of the war."

"In wartime, a man is taught to seize, kill, assault, burn and destroy. If he did a good job, he was a hero. Now for the same act, he is sentenced to prison."

"While many can adjust themselves overnight, others cannot. We should not wake up to find we have drastically punished heroes for acts brought on by their war experiences."

Justice Laws told the story of the young veteran with no previous criminal record who was brought into court on a first-degree murder charge. After the trial started, the defense counsel said the man had been in the war and had "blacked out" at the time of the shooting. It was a general type of defense and neither side introduced a psychiatrist.

The prosecution brought out that when the man came home from the war he went back to his wife.

(See LAWS, Page A-4.)

Baby Crawls From Crib Dies of Cold in Yard

By the Associated Press

PRINCETON, Ill., Feb. 8.—The frozen body of 15-month-old Kelly Powers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Powers, was found in the yard of his home early today.

The baby apparently had left his crib during the night and crawled outdoors into the near-zero cold.

Edison's Famous Desk Opened, Revealing Pills, Jokes and Notes

By the Associated Press

WEST ORANGE, N. J., Feb. 8.—Thomas Alva Edison's famous roll-top desk—sealed since his death more than 15 years ago—was opened today by his son and was found to contain scientific materials, but mostly the personal effects of Edison, the man.

There were stomach pills and mouth wash, bills accumulated for decades, jokes written in his own hand, a book he never had time to autograph for a young girl in Chicago, but nothing startling except perhaps a small vial of uranium nitrate.

His son, Charles Edison, former New Jersey Governor and former Secretary of the Navy, supervised the unsealing and study of the desk. Beside him was Mrs. Edison, widow of the inventor.

Mr. Edison, with a big smile on his face, at one point stopped reading a penciled piece of note paper and

said "censored." The note contained a story his father had heard at one time. Another piece of paper bore the legend, "When down in the mouth remember Jonah, he came out all right."

It was an impressive compilation of Edison's notebooks with the half-printed scroll of the inventor's diagrams of something on which he was working; a piece of goldenrod, rubber on which he was experimenting when he died; a box of ancient cigars; maps of New Jersey, and as indicative of the fact that the genius Edison was just as human as the next man—a book of accounts dated April, 1904, and still lying in one of the cubbyholes.

There were two fountain pens which Charles Edison opened to find three papers, owned by the Philadelphia Record Co., suspended publication after being strikebound nearly three months by the CIO American Newspaper Guild.

(See EDISON, Page A-3.)

Tax Cut Plans Upset by Taft Move for Delay

By the Associated Press

Senator Taft, Republican, of Ohio tossed a monkey wrench into plans of House Republicans for a quick cutback in income taxes with an announcement yesterday that he will oppose making any reduction effective before July 1.

This would halve the \$3,500,000